Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION.

...oved from this
G.O. M.s. 49/11
do — 121/10
1582/09
1184/10
1475/13
1237-12/13

Recd.	1915.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O. No. 204 I., 26th April 1915.

N. P.

Maintenance of Vedaranniyam canal

Passing orders on a complaint made regarding the shallowness of water in the Vēdāra nniyam canal and directing that half the cost of maintaining the canal from 1908–09 be r ecovered from the District Board.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

Read—the following papers :—

I

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), No. 543, R., Mis., dated 12th May 1914.

The Hon'ble Mr. N. S. Brodie, M.A., I.C.S.

Acting Second Member, Board of Revenue and Commissioner of Salt, Abkāri and Separate Revenue.

Read—the following paper :—

Letter—from H. H. Hood, Esq., officiating Collector of Customs, Madras.
To—the Secretary to the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
Dated—the 7th May 1914.
No.—R.O.C. 1745.

I have the honour to submit for the favourable consideration of the Board copy of a petition presented to me by the merchants of Topputurai during my visit to that port on the 16th March last. In the petition these merchants complain that their businesss is greatly hampered by the considerable delay in receiving and transmitting goods owing to the shallowness of the water in the Vēdāranniyam canal. I myself experienced much difficulty and delay in reaching Topputurai by canal boat owing to the shallowness of water at several places.

From the statement attached it will be seen that on an average Topputurai receives approximately nine and half lakhs of rupees worth of goods and ships about the same quantity by the canal route in the course of a year. The loss incurred by the local traders owing to the bad state of the canal can be readily realized from the fact that fully loaded boats frequently take more than ten and sometimes as much as fifteen days to make the passage, whereas if the depth of water were sufficient two or three days at most would be ample for the journey.

I understand that the dredging of the canal is at present done by contract made by the Public Works Department and that no contribution towards the cost is received from local funds. The average annual expenditure on dredging is stated to be Rs. 6,000 and the amount has remained stationary for some time. It occurred to me that the full value for the money now expended is not obtained, for I noticed that in many places the silt taken from the canal bed was deposited close to the edge in such a way that a considerable portion of it would very soon find its way back into the water.

In view of the importance of the development of trade, I am of opinion that it is desirable that additional sums should be spent on the dredging of the canal so that the passage of boats may be unimpeded and I suggest therefore that the Public Works Department may be addressed with a view to such action as is possible being taken in the matter.

Enclosures.

(1)

Figures of trade and connected information.

Number of merchants transacting business at Topputurai	22
Number of other merchants transacting business at Topputurai—but not doing business with the Custom House	52*

*Note.—These include merchants, residing at Vēdāranniyam, Agatiampatti and Pt. Calimere. The two farms are contiguous to Topputurai (the evident reason for not doing business through the Custom House being the delay that occurs in getting and sending their goods through canal route.)

Approximate quantity of grain (rice and paddy) and other commodities *coming* to Topputurai from the north by canal per annum—

		Value.	
		RS.	
Rice and paddy	1,10,000 bags	5,50,000	
Sundries such as saffron, gram of various kinds, chillies, tamarind, jaggery and other provisions	30,000 „	3,00,000	
Timber including firewood	75 to 100 tons	12,000	
Cloth	200 bundles	1,00,000	
		9 62,000	or $9\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

Approximate quantity of grain, etc., going by canal from Topputurai and Vedaranniyam—

		Value.	
		RS.	
Tobacco	1,00,000 bundles	5,00,000	
Salt	60,000 bags	1,50,000	
Rice to Colombo *via* Negapatam by train route	10,000 bags	1,20,000	
Dried fish	5,000 ,,	50,000	
Punnai nuts for oil	2,000 ,,	15,000	
Firewood	18,000 boat loads	45,000	
Palmyrah fibre	1,000 bundles	10,000	
		8,90,000	about 9 lakhs.

When there is sufficient water in the canal a full boat load is about	100 bags.
When water is insufficient in the canal a full boat load is about ...	40 to 60 bags.
Number of days usually occupied in transit when depth of water is insufficient.	varies from two to fifteen days.
When there is sufficient water in the canal, the journey for a fully loaded boat occupies two or at most three days and the journey is accelerated if the wind is favourable	

NOTE—The boat-hire (Rs. 6-4-0 per boat) is constant whether a boat is fully loaded or partly loaded and the number of canal boats plying is about 200.

(2)

Petition—from M.R.Ry. S. S. P. SATTAYYAPPA CHETTIYAR and other merchants of Topputurai.

To—the Collector of Customs, Madras.

HONORED SIR,—We the undersigned merchants and residents of this port beg to thank your honour's kind visit to this place.

1. When your honour were here last year, we requested your honour to recommend to the Agent, South Indian Railway, to have the railway line turned up to this port, with a view of increasing our trade, when the line was beyond our limits. It is only through your honour, we got over the difficulty and the lands are being purchased for which we feel *thankful* once more.

2. We beg further to place before your honour another difficulty, *i.e.*, the shallowness of the canal (Negapatam to Thopputhurai). We purchase paddy in the adjoining villages close to the canal—owing to the island in the middle of the canal, the loaded paddy boats were detained for a long time, causing loss to the port as well as to the merchants.

3. * * * *

4. And we beg to request your honour to kindly recommend to the departments concerned.

(1) to repair the canal.

(2) * * * *

5. For which act, we feel highly thankful.

Resolution—No. 543 *R. Mis., dated* 12*th May* 1914.

Submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

H. H. F. M. TYLER,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

II

Official Memorandum No. 919 I./14-1, dated 23rd May 1914.

Referred to the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, for early remarks.

(By Order.)

F. E. MORGAN,
Asst. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle.

III

Letter—from M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur A. V. RAMALINGA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., B.C.E., Superintending Engineer, VII Circle.
To—the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
Dated—Madras, the 9th /13th July 1914.
No.—472 E.I.

With reference to your Memorandum No. 919 I./14-1, dated 23rd May 1914, forwarding for remarks letter from the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, complaining of the shallowness of the Vēdāranniyam canal, I have the honour to report as follows.

Board's Proceedings No. 2977, dated 26th August 1884.
G.O. No. 885 I., dated 1st October 1884.

2. The canal is maintained to a depth of 3 feet below M.S.L. as laid down in the marginally-noted orders of Government. The proposals made in former years to increase the depth to 5 feet have not been approved by Government—*vide* G.O. No. 233 I., dated 26th April 1890 and G.O. No. 320 I., dated 8th April 1891.

3. As regards the complaint that the full value for the money annually expended by Government is not obtained, as the silt taken from the canal bed is deposited close to the edge in such a way that a considerable part of it would very soon find its way back into the water, the Executive Engineer reports that till last year the silt removed was first thrown on the berms and after it dried up was again removed and thrown beyond the banks wherever Government land is available. That some of the silt finds its way back into the canal is no doubt true because the canal silts up at places where rain water enters the canal or where cart-tracks form deep ramps. In these places, the silt even when thrown beyond the banks is ultimately washed down into the canal by rain. The Executive Engineer reports that silt clearance this year has been done in a more satisfactory way and it is believed that there will be no more complaints. A copy of the memorandum by Mr. G. T. Walch, a former Chief Engineer for Irrigation, giving detailed instructions as to how silt clearance should be done on this canal has been sent to the Executive Engineer, Vennar division, for guidance.

4. The Collector of Sea Customs also remarks that the average annual expenditure on dredging has remained stationary and suggests that additional sums be spent on dredging. The maintenance charges during the past four years has been as follows :—

	RS.
1910-11	7,242
1911-12	6,925
1912-13	7,463
1913-14	7,026

In laying down that no considerable expenditure on the general improvement of the canal should be incurred till the effect on the Vēdāranniyam salt pans of the Mayavaram-Muthupet Railway then under construction showed whether such expenditure would be warranted, the Government ordered in G.O. No. 320 I., dated 8th

April 1891, that in the meantime the annual grant for the maintenance of the canal might be increased to Rs. 10,000 for its efficient upkeep. As no improvements have been carried out since the date of the above Government Order, it is presumed that a sum of Rs. 10,000 may be spent annually on maintenance if found actually necessary.

5. As regards the non-recovery of the moiety of the cost of maintenance from the District Board, I find from records that the recovery was made in some years but there is nothing to show why it was stopped. I have again addressed the Executive Engineer on the subject.

6. The enclosures received with your memorandum under reply are returned herewith.

IV

Official Memorandum No. 919 I./14-A-2, dated 14th August 1914.

In paragraph 5 of his letter No. 472 E.I., dated 9th July 1914, the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, stated that he had addressed the Executive Engineer, Vennar division, as regards the non-recovery from the District Board of the moiety of the cost of maintenance of the Vēdārauniyam canal. The Superintending Engineer is requested to state whether a report on the subject has been received from the Executive Engineer and if so, when it may be expected in this office.

(By Order.)

F. E. MORGAN,
Asst. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle.

V

Letter—from M.R.Ry. V. GOPALAYYA Garu, B.A., B.E., Executive Engineer, Vennar division.

To—the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle.

Dated—the 28th August 1914.

No.—7909-S.E.

With reference to your No. 997-Vr., dated 22nd August 1914, on Irrigation Chief Engineer's No. 919-I./14 A-2, dated 14th August 1914, I have the honour to report that the Deputy Accountant-General, Public Works Branch, in reply to a reference made by me on receipt of your No. 472 E.I., dated 9th July 1914, informs me that the procedure of debiting half the outlay to 43. Provincial and the other half to district funds was discontinued under the orders contained in Chief Engineer's No. 2755-C., dated 20th April 1906, and that the expenditure is now accounted for under 43. Minor Works and Navigation "kept", the adjustment between Provincial and Local being made outside Public Works Accounts.

2. The President, District Board, was also addressed on the subject and reminded, and his reply will, on receipt, be communicated in due course.

3. The canal is being maintained to the mamool depth of 3 feet below M.S.L. and with the effective clearance carried out lately by completely closing the canal for traffic, there should be no further complaint of shallowness.

No. 645 *E.I., dated* 7*th September* 1914.

Copy submitted to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation with reference to his Memorandum No. 919-I./14 -A-2, dated 14th August 1914.

A. V. RAMALINGA AYYAR,
Superintending Engineer, VII Circle.

VI

Letter—from Mr. K. Venkatarama Ayyar, B.A., Deputy Accountant-General, Public Works Branch.
To—the Executive Engineer, Vennar division.
Dated—the 13th August 1914.
No.—485/125 Ven.

With reference to your No 2230, dated 1st August 1914, I have the honour to inform you that the procedure of debiting half the outlay to 43. Provincial and the other half to District Funds was discontinued under the orders contained in Chief Engineer's No. 2755-C., dated 20th April 1906. The expenditure is now accounted for under "43. Minor Works and Navigation kept" the adjustment between Provincial and Local being made outside Public Works Accounts.

VII

Letter—from R. B. Wood, Esq., I.C.S., President, District Board, Tanjore.
To—the Executive Engineer, Vennār division.
Dated—the 26th August 1914.
No.—D. Dis. 2062 D.B.

With reference to your No. 6799, Mis., dated 31st July 1914, I have the honour to state that a contribution of Rs. 2,531 for the annual maintenance of the Vēdāranniyam canal was for the last time adjusted in the final accounts by the Accountant-General in 1907-08 and no contribution was adjusted in subsequent years. This contribution was always adjusted by the Accountant-General on the advice of the Public Works Department and this office has no information as to the cause of the subsequent non-adjustment of the contribution.

No. 660 *E.I.*, *dated* 11*th September* 1914.

Copies of letters from the Deputy Accountant-General, Public Works Branch, and the President, District Board, Tanjore, are submitted to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for information in continuation of this office No. 645 E.I., dated 7th September 1914.

A. V. Ramalinga Ayyar,
Superintending Engineer, *VII Circle*.

VIII

Letter—from R. B. Wood, Esq., I.C.S., President, District Board, Tanjore.
To—the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.
Dated—the 11th October 1914.
No.—R.C. 2892-D.B.

I have the honour to invite your attention to G.O. No. 371, Revenue, dated 26th March 1885, under which the *net* cost of the maintenance of the Vēdāranniyam canal was ordered to be shared equally by the Public Works Department and the District Board of this district. The cost to be borne by the District Board was adjusted in the Accountant-General's Office year after year from 1885–86. The last adjustment was made in the accounts of 1907–08, and since then no contribution has been adjusted. The Accountant-General states that no recovery was effected as no intimation was received by him from your department. The Executive Engineer, Vennar, informs me that he has no information in his office on the point. I therefore request that you will be good enough to let me know the cause of the non-recovery of the contribution from 1908–09 onwards.

IX

Note by the Accountant-General, No. 195, dated 30th October 1914.

In G.O. No. 631 W., dated 5th June 1907, the local Government ruled that estimates involving 'shared' expenditure should be submitted for the sanction of Government so that specific orders may be issued in each case and that a copy of such orders will be communicated to the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, and the Accountant-General for the necessary adjustments being effected. As from 1908–09 onwards no such orders were issued by the local Government nor the shares due, if any, from local funds otherwise indicated, no recoveries have been made.

2. I would take this opportunity of respectfully suggesting a modification of the Government Order referred to above. When the share of recovery is determined beforehand and the order of recovery is intended to last for a number of years, the responsibility of seeing to the recovery should be thrown on the Accountant-General without orders being issued by the Local Government from year to year. In other cases, specific orders may be issued on each case annually. If my suggestion is approved, a consolidated statement of recoveries to be made annually with particulars of the terms thereof may now be sent for my guidance.

3. The un-official reference No. 919 S., dated 21st September 1914, bearing on the same subject is herewith returned.

K. L. DATTA,
Accountant-General.

Order—No. 204 I., dated 6th April 1915.

The papers read above relate to a complaint made by certain merchants of Topputurai, Tanjore district, regarding the shallowness of water in the Vēdāranniyam canal, which resulted in delay in the transmission of goods by the canal and loss to the local traders. The Collector of Customs, Madras, in forwarding a petition from the above merchants, remarked that no contribution for the maintenance of the canal had been recovered from "local funds" and that the clearance of silt from the canal had not been carried out satisfactorily. A report on the subject was called for from the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle.

2. The Superintending Engineer in reply states that the canal is maintained to a depth of 3 feet below M.S.L. As regards silt clearance, it is stated that in previous years, the work was far from satisfactory and that during the current year, the work has been done in a more satisfactory manner. The Government notice with much dissatisfaction that the clearance of silt has not been satisfactory and it is clear there has been inadequate supervision by the Executive and Superintending Engineers. The canal is being worked at a loss and it does not appear necessary that it should be improved at great cost. It will, it is considered, be sufficient, if the maintenance charges be, as directed in G.O. No. 320 I., dated 8th April 1891, increased to Rs. 10,000 (for "works" only) if necessity arises.

3. As regards the non-recovery from the District Board of the moiety of the net cost of the maintenance of the canal, it is observed that in G.O. No. 371, Revenue, dated 26th March 1885, orders were issued once for all directing that the net cost of the maintenance of the canal should be shared equally by the Public Works Department and the District Board; and the general instructions issued in G.O. No. 631 W., dated 5th June 1907, should be considered as having been subsequently modified by Standing Order No. 24 to paragraph 1805 of the Public Works Department Code, Volume II, and G.O. No. 525 W., dated 28th April 1908. The Accountant-General will now be requested to see that the contribution is recovered regularly in future. As regards the arrears due from 1908–09 the Government are pleased to waive solely as an act of grace half the amount due from the District Board. The Accountant-General will arrange to recover the other half from the District Board at an early date.

4. The question raised in paragraph 2 of the Accountant-General's note read above will be considered in the Public Works Department, General Branch.

(True Extract.)

W. M. ELLIS, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.
(Irrigation Branch).

To the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle.
,, Accountant-General, Madras.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Local and Municipal Department.
,, Public Works Department, with notes.
,, Financial Department.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(IRRIGATION BRANCH).

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 204 I., DATED 26TH APRIL 1915.

[SUBJECT.—*Contribution from the District Board, Tanjore, towards the maintenance of the Vēdāranniyam canal.*]

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), R. Mis. No. 543, *dated* 12*th May* 1914.

[Official Memorandum to the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, issued as No. 919 I./14-1, dated 23rd May 1914.]

Under Secretary—

A draft reminder to the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, is submitted for approval and orders to issue.

T.V.S.—24-6-14.

M.S.V.—24-6-14.

F. E. MORGAN—26-6-14.

From the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, No. 472 *E.I., dated* 9/13*th July* 1914.

Under Secretary—

Secretary—

On a representation made by certain merchants of Topputurai, the Collector of Customs, Madras, brought to the notice of the Board that owing to the shallowness of water in the Vēdāranniyam canal, considerable delay occurred in the transmission of goods by the canal, thus resulting in loss to the local traders. It was also stated that no contribution for the maintenance of the canal had been recovered from "local funds" and that the clearance of silt from it had not been carried out satisfactorily for in many places the silt taken from the canal-bed was deposited close to the edge in such a way that a considerable portion of it would very soon find its way back into the water. In conclusion the Collector requested that such action as might be possible be taken to improve the canal.

2. The Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, who was asked to report on the points referred to by the Collector, now states that the canal is maintained to a depth of three feet below M.S.L. and that the proposal made in former years to increase the depth to five feet was not approved by Government. As regards the complaint that silt-clearance had not been done satisfactorily, reference is requested to paragraph 3 of the Superintending Engineer's letter. It will be seen therefrom that silt-clearance in previous years was far from satisfactory, that during the current year the work has been done in a more satisfactory manner and that the Superintending Engineer has forwarded for the Executive Engineer's guidance a copy of the detailed instructions issued by Mr. Walch as to how silt-clearance should be done on this canal. It has not been explained why silt-clearance was not done satisfactorily in previous years according to Mr. Walch's instructions. It is for consideration whether any report on this point should be called for.

Vide G.Os. 233 I., 26th April 1890 and 320 I., 8th April 1891.

3. In G.O. No. 320 I., dated 8th April 1891, it was ordered that no considerable expenditure on the general improvement of the canal should be incurred till the effect on the Vēdāranniyam salt-pans of the Māyavaram-Muthupet Railway then under construction showed whether such expenditure would be warranted and that in the meantime, the annual grant for the maintenance of the canal would be raised from Rs. 6,150 to Rs. 10,000. The

This railway has been constructed. What has been the result?.

working expenses incurred on and the revenue derived from the canal during ten years ending 1912–13 are noted in the statement attached. It will be seen therefrom that the canal has been worked at a loss.

4. It will also be seen from the enclosed statement that since 1910–11 the quantity of goods carried has shown a fall. This might perhaps be due to the shallowness of the canal owing to the unsatisfactory state of silt-clearance. The Superintending Engineer has observed that there will be no more complaints as silt-clearance has been done this year in a satisfactory manner. It does not therefore appear necessary that the canal should be improved at great cost. It will be sufficient if the maintenance charges are increased to Rs. 10,000 (for 'works' only) as directed in G.O. No. 320 I., dated 8th April 1891.

Vēdāranniyam canal.

Year.	Tonnage.	Navigation receipts.	Gross revenue.	Working expenses including works, repairs, establishment and Tools and Plant.	Net revenue.	Total net revenue up to.
		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1903–04	11,824	1,040	1,068	4,464	— 3,396	— 84,444
1904–05	14,779	950	984	3,854	— 2,870	— 87,314
1905–06	9,878	1,074	1,112	9,204	— 8.092	— 95,406
1906–07	10,691	1,122	1,122	8,602	— 7,480	— 1,02,886
1907–08	21,883	1,129	1,137	9,245	— 8,108	— 1,10,994
1908–09	29,291	1,194	1,204	13,219	— 12,015	— 1,23,009
1909–10	34,191	1,293	1,298	10,224	— 8,926	— 1,31,935
1910–11	29,184	1,265	1,262	9,419	— 8,157	— 1,40,092
1911–12	21,342	1,325	1,337	9,410	— 8,073	— 1,48,165
1912–13	15,725	1,242	1,260	9,757	— 8,497	— 1,56,662
1913–14	Figures not yet available.					

5. As regards the non-recovery from the District Board of the moiety of the cost of maintenance of the canal, the Superintending Engineer states that he has adressed the Executive Engineer. A further report on the subject may be awaited.

F. E. MORGAN.

M.S.—27-7-14.

M.S.V.—27-7-14.

Secretary—

The Executive Engineer says that the silt clearance has been done more carefully and the result of this year's working might be awaited and the Superintending Engineer authorized to work up to the full amount laid down in G.O. No. 320 I., dated 8th April 1891. This amount was fixed to keep the canal in a fairly efficient state for the carriage of salt but we do not know whether a good deal of this has not been diverted to the railway. The only figures for carriage of salt that I can find are those given on page 4 current file. Sixty thousand bags of value Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ laksh but that is only for traffic between two places and may not represent the whole salt traffic on canal.

F. E. MORGAN—29-7-14.

From the wording of G.O. No. 371, Revenue, dated 26th March 1885, stating that the difference, if any, between the traffic receipts and the cost of maintenance should be made up in equal shares by the Local Fund Board and by Provincial funds, it would appear that no very great excess in the cost of maintenance was anticipated.

In 1885–86 the cost of maintenance exceeded receipts by Rs. 402 and Rs. 201 was ordered to be recovered from the Local Board (see G.O. No. 834 I., dated 3rd December 1886).

The working expenses are now nearly Rs. 10,000 and the gross revenue only about Rs. 1,300.

A | Can the table page 2 be extended back to the year 1885–86.

W. J. J. HOWLEY—29-7-14.

Vēdāranniyam canal.

Year.	Tonnage.	Navigation receipts.	Gross revenue.	Working expenses including works, repairs, establishment and Tools and Plant.	Net revenue.	Total net revenue up to.
		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.**	RS.
1885-86	*..	‡..	280	624	‖ — 344	.. } P
1886-87	*..	651	651	6,991	— 6,340	.. } P
1887-88	† 1,367	624	624	6,322	— 5,698	.. } P
1888-89	9,746	728	732	6,395	— 5,663	.. } P
1889-90	5,647	647	648	6,735	— 6,087	— 23,872
1890-91	6,239	1,200	1,206	§ — 11,275	12,481	— 11,391
1891-92	7,026	1,231	1,236	3,808	— 2,572	— 13,963
1892-93	3,409	1,077	1,068	4,086	— 3,018	— 16,981
1893-94	9,410	1,170	1,170	3,090	— 1,920	— 18,901
1894-95	9,128	1,134	1,136	2,832	— 2,696	— 21,597
1895-96	9,370	1,136	1,136	4,351	— 3,215	**— 24,812
1896-97	5,722	917	917	6,363	— 5,446	— 59,552
1897-98	2,249	859	872	6,569	— 5,697	— 65,249
1898-99	1,933	1,211	1,217	4,343	— 3,126	— 68,375
1899-1900	2,484	1,187	1,242	3,811	— 2,569	— 70,944
1900-01	2,220	913	963	3,969	— 3,006	— 73,950
1901-02	3,039	915	929	3,973	— 3,045	— 76,995
1902-03	13,986	960	1,030	5,083	— 4,053	— 81,048

* The traffic on the canal previous to 1st October 1887 was not recorded.

† This represents the tonnage carried during the half-year ending 31st March 1888.

‡ The information is not traceable from the Administrative accounts of the year.

§ During the year there was a recovery of expenditure of Rs. 11,(01 owing to the adjustment of the moiety of difference between the traffic receipts and the cost of maintenance of the canal from 1886-87 to 1890-91 having been effected by credit to the canal and debit to "Local Incorporated."

P Information not available as the canal was first shown in the Administrative accounts for 1889-90.

‖ Vast difference between the total net revenues up to these two years is due to the maintenance charges on the canal previous to 1895-96 having been traced and brought into accounts during 1896-97.

** The net revenue shown as — Rs. 402 in G.O. No. 834 I., dated 3rd December 1886, was for the revenue year 1885-86 (July 1885 to June 1886) — *vide* Chief Engineer for Irrigation's note, dated 29th July 1914, above.

Secretary—

Please see the statement prepared with reference to your note marked **A** above.

M.S.—6-8-14.
M.S.V.—6-8-14.

Send reminder to the Superintending Engineer with reference to paragraph 5 of his letter No. 472 E.I., dated 9th July 1914. The moiety of difference between traffic receipts and cost of maintenance seems to have been recovered from the District Board only up to end of 1890-91.

W.J.J.H.—8-8-14.

With reference to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation's note above, a draft official memorandum to the Superintending Engineer is submitted for approval.

M.S.—10-8-14.
M.S.V.—10-8-14.

F. E. MORGAN—12-8-14.

[Official memorandum to the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, issued as No. 919 I./14 A.-2, dated 14th August 1914.]

Under Secretary—

A draft reminder to the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, on the official memorandum quoted above is submitted for approval and orders to issue.

T.V.S.—1-9-14.
M.S.V.—1-9-14.

F.E.M.—3-9-14.

From the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, dated 7th September 1914, No. 645-E.I.

Under Secretary—

Secretary—

It is observed from the Executive Engineer's letter forwarded with the Superintending Engineer's endorsement read above that with reference to the Chief Engineer Public Works Department's Memorandum No. 2755 C., dated 20th April 1906, the procedure of debiting half the outlay on the maintenance of the Vēdāranniyam canal to "43. Provincial" and the other half to "Local funds" was discontinued and that

A | the expenditure is now accounted for under "43" the adjustment between "Provincial" and "Local" being made outside the Public Works Accounts. The above procedure was in accordance with paragraph 1805 of the Public Works Department Code, Volume II, before it was amended by Standing Order No. 24, dated 15th June 1908. The amendment was based on the orders issued in the Government of India's Resolution No. 6902 A, dated 19th November 1907, printed with G.O. No. 525 W., dated 28th April 1908. Under the above ruling any contribution from "Local funds" for Provincial works should be credited to the Public Works Department through the civil exchange accounts.

2. The procedure referred to at A above which is stated to be followed at present is at variance with that laid down in G.O. No. 525 W., dated 28th April 1908, under which the contribution recovered should finally be adjusted in the Public Works Department accounts. It is not known why the latter procedure is not followed at present. The Collector of Customs has reported that no contribution towards the cost of the maintenance of the canal appears to be recovered from local funds. The Executive Engineer has stated that he has addressed the President, District Board, on the subject and that his reply is awaited. As the books of the Accountant-General's office will show whether any contribution is actually recovered from the District Board or not, it is submitted that the Accountant-General may be consulted u.o.

M.S.—12-9-14.

P.K.S.—12-9-14.

F.E.M.—15-9-14.

W. M. ELLIS—15-9-14.

To the Accountant-General u.o.

ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

From the Superintending Engineer, VII Circle, dated 11th September 1914, No. 660 E.I.

Under Secretary—

Secretary—

The main file on the subject has been sent to the Accountant-General with u.o. No. 919 I., dated 17th September 1914, for report whether any contribution is being recovered from the District Board, Tanjore, towards the maintenance of the Vēdāranniyam canal. From a copy of the President's letter forwarded with the Superintending Engineer's endorsement read above, it will be seen that no contribution has been recovered since 1908–09. The Deputy Accountant-General's statement that "the expenditure is now accounted for under "43. Minor Works "and Navigation kept," the adjustment between Provincial and Local being made "outside Public Works Accounts" does not appear to be correct. These papers may also be sent u.o. to the Accountant-General for remarks with reference to the concluding portion of the President's letter referred to above.

M.S.—17-9-14.

P.K.S.—17-9-14.

F. E. MORGAN—18-9-14.

W. M. ELLIS—18-9-14.

To the Accountant-General u.o.

From the President, District Board, Tanjore, dated 11th October 1914, R.C. No. 2892/D.B.

Under Secretary—

Submitted.

2. The question regarding the non-recovery of the contribution from the District Board towards the cost of the maintenance of the Vēdāranniyam canal has already been taken up and the file was sent to the Accountant-General for remarks

on 17th September 1914. His reply has not yet been received. A reminder will be sent to him if the reply does not come in by the 1st proximo.

Yes.
F.E.M.—20-10-14.

M.S.—20-10-14.

P.K.S.—20-10-14.

F.E.M.—20-10-14.

ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

In G.O. No. 631 W., dated 5th June 1907, the Local Government ruled that estimates involving 'shared' expenditure should be submitted for the sanction of Government so that specific orders may be issued in each case and that a copy of such orders will be communicated to the Examiner, Public Works Accounts and the Accountant-General for the necessary adjustments being effected. As from 1908–09 onwards, no such orders were issued by the Local Government nor the shares due, if any, from local funds otherwise indicated, no recoveries have been made.

2. I would take this opportunity of respectfully suggesting a modification of the Government Order referred to above. When the share of recovery is determined beforehand and the order of recovery is intended to last for a number of years, the responsibility of seeing to the recovery should be thrown on the Accountant-General without orders being issued by the Local Government from year to year. In other cases, specific orders may be issued on each case annually. If my suggestion is approved, a consolidated statement of recoveries to be made annually with particulars of the terms thereof may now be sent for my guidance.

3. The u.o. reference No. 919 S., dated 21st September 1914, bearing on the same subject is herewith returned.

K. L. DATTA,
Accountant-General.

To M.G. Public Works Department (Irrigation) u.o.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(IRRIGATION BRANCH).

Under Secretary—

Secretary—

Reference is requested to the Accountant-General's note above. G.O. No. 631 W., dated 5th June 1907, referred to therein was passed at a time when the adjustment between "Provincial" and "Local" was made outside the Public Works Accounts. As this procedure has subsequently been modified (*vide* paragraph 1805 of the Public Works Department Code, Volume II, as amended by G.O. No. 24

A | and also G.O. No. 525 W., dated 28th April 1908), the orders issued in paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 631 W., dated 5th June 1907, do not appear to be in force at present. Moreover in the present case orders have been issued once for all in G.O. No. 371, Revenue, dated 26th March 1885, under which the net cost of the maintenance of the canal should be shared equally by the Public Works Department and the District Board. The Accountant-General's contention in paragraph 1 of his note does not therefore appear to be correct. However it is of no use to pursue this question any further. The Accountant-General may be asked to see that the contribution is recovered regularly in future and to recover the arrears due from 1908–09.

2. As regards paragraph 2 of the Accountant-General's note, it is not known whether any revised orders on the lines indicated therein are necessary. This is a question to be considered in the Public Works Department, General Branch, and it may be taken up after the issue of orders on the present case.

A draft order is put up for approval. It may be forwarded to Public Works, Revenue, Local and Municipal and Financial for acceptance.

P.K.S.—25-11-14.

W. M. ELLIS—26-11-14.

To the Public Works
,, Revenue
,, Local and Municipal } *Departments u.o.*
,, Financial

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Deputy Secretary—

The correction shown in pencil in paragraph 3 of the draft order may be suggested to "Irrigation" for acceptance and the draft order accepted in this department, and the file passed on to the Revenue Department.

R.A.K.—9-12-14.

S.G.—10-12-14.

D. MARSHALL—11-12-14.

To the Revenue Department u.o.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Under Secretary—

The draft order may, it is submitted, be accepted in Revenue and the file passed on to Local and Municipal Department.

B.M.R.—14-12-14.

R.S.—15-12-14.

L. J. P. JOLLY—15-12-14.

To the Local and Municipal Department u.o.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers 2 and note, please.

W. FRANCIS—17-12-14.

Secretary—

It does not seem desirable that the contribution should be levied in this case with effect from 1908–09 as proposed. In regard to a proposal to recover arrears of rent due from the Saidapet Taluk Board for occupation of a portion of a Government building, the Government decided to waive the arrears due. Submitted that similarly in this case also the District Board of Tanjore need not be called upon to pay the arrears of contribution due for the past (from 1908–09) and it will be enough if the contribution be ordered to be recovered regularly in future.

Endorsement 1237-1 L., 11th March 1913.

The amounts to be recovered, if the proposal be accepted, will be as follows:—

	RS.
1908–09	6,907
1909–10	4,463
1910–11	4,079
1911–12	4,036
1912–13	4,249
1913–14	Figures not available.
Total (so far as known)	22,834 as arrears.

I agree that it is rough on the District Board to collect six years' arrears in a lump. It would have paid at the time if it had been asked to, but wasn't asked.

W.F.—4-1-15.

To the Financial Department u.o.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Assistant Secretary—

Please see paragraph 3 of draft and Local and Municipal Department notes on page 6 *ante*.

2. Under G.O. No. 1039, Financial, dated 2nd December 1902, reproduced in paragraph 17 of the Madras Treasury Manual adjustments between *Provincial* and *Local Funds* are not permitted after six months from the date of publication of the accounts of the year to which the transaction appertains *without the sanction of Government.* In several cases of adjustments in favour of local boards this ruling has been strictly enforced—*vide* paragraph 2 of Financial Department note dated 25th July 1913, on page 3 of Notes to G.O. No. 1475 M., dated 31st July 1913. But it may be noted that in all these cases the amounts involved were *trifling.* In the present case, which is one of adjustment in favour of Provincial the aggregate amount involved since 1908–09 is large and it is accordingly for orders whether the contribution should be recovered for the period from 1908–09 forwards as proposed in the draft. If, however, irrespective of the amount the ruling is strictly enforced the contribution should be recovered from 1913–14 onwards only, as the accounts for 1912–13 had long ago been published and the prescribed period has elapsed.

Cf. also Chief Secretary's (now Honourable Member) note 13th September 1909 on page 17 of G.O. 1582 M., 21st September 1909.

Rs. 22,834 roughly.

(*Vide* Local and Municipal note on page 6 *ante*).

For orders.

C.R.S.—11-1-15.

A.H.—11-1-15.

Chief Secretary—

Financial may perhaps agree to recovery being waived in respect of adjustments which should have been made prior to 1913–14.

B. LAVILLE—13-1-15.

Though the rule against adjustments after six months is enforced when the sums concerned are trifling, it is always recognized that large sums may be treated otherwise and I feel sure that, if the sum now at stake were claimed by the District Board from Provincial funds, the Government would view the claim generously. I agree that the recovery of the whole sum in arrears may not be desirable as it might hamper the district board but I do not find sufficient reason for waiving the whole claim against a board which is, I believe, in a fairly prosperous condition. As an act of grace I would waive recovery of *half* the amount due.

Honourable Member, Financial, should see.

A. BUTTERWORTH—14-1-15.

To the Public Works Department (Irrigation) u.o.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(IRRIGATION BRANCH).

Under Secretary—

Secretary—

This department may agree with Financial that Government may, as an act of grace, waive the recovery of half the amount of the arrears due from 1908–09. Necessary alterations have, subject to approval, been made in paragraph 3 of the draft order. The case may, it is submitted, be circulated to the Honourable Member and the Hon'ble Mr. Sivaswami Ayyar for approval.

G.V.—17-1-15.

P.K.S.—18-1-15.

F. E. MORGAN—18-1-15.

W. M. ELLIS—18-1-15.

To the Honourable Member—

To the Hon'ble Mr. Sivaswami Ayyar—

I agree as to recovery. The Accountant-General seems to have been to blame for not making the recovery from time to time, though the point is not free from doubt.

2. It should be stated in the draft that the Government notice with much dissatisfaction that the clearance of silt has not been satisfactory and it is clear there has been inadequate supervision by the Executive and Superintending Engineers.

3. Is the Chief Engineer satisfied with the way the Buckingham Canal is maintained? It looks to me as though in that case also the silt was merely thrown on the berms and there left to be washed back by the next rains. I should like to be satisfied that adequate attention is being paid to that canal.

H. A. S[TUART]—19-1-15.

The case is resubmitted to the Hon'ble Mr. P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar. It was first circulated to him on 20th January 1915, but has apparently been returned without initial or orders.

W. M. ELLIS—20-4-15.

I should have been glad if the whole of the arrears could have been waived. I hope there will be no necessity to maintain the canal after the Tirutturaippundi-Vedaranniyam line is constructed.

P. S. S[IVASWAMI AYYAR]—21-4-15.

Under Secretary—

Secretary—

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Honourable Member's note dated 19th January 1915 above necessary addition has, subject to approval, been made in paragraph 2 of the draft order. With reference to the concluding portion of the Hon'ble Mr. Sivaswami Ayyar's note dated 21st April 1915, it is submitted that it cannot be said that the maintenance of the canal will be unnecessary, after the Tirutturaippūndi-Vēdāranniyam line is constructed. A petition was lately received from the Canal Transit Company, Negapatam, praying for an exclusive right to motor traffic in the canal. A reference has been made by Local and Municipal to the President, District Board, Tanjore, on the subject.

2. The question raised in paragraph 3 of Honourable Member's note dated 19th January 1915 will be noted on separately after the issue of the present order.

G.V.—22-4-15.

F. E. MORGAN—22-4-15.

The addition to the draft order is approved.

W.M.E.—22-4-15.

[Issued as G.O. No. 204 I., dated 26th April 1915.]

C.F. 88—1,002—26-11-13.

8 quot

P.

No. 448 29
27/14

Public Works Department.

Irrigation Branch.

I REMINDER. 9198/14

REPLY.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER VII CIRCLE, P.W.D., MADRAS. JUN 1914 Enclo... 50689

2919/14

CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION 3 - JUL 1914 No. 383/14 A

Quote

To

The Supg. Engineer VII Circle.

The undersigned ~~has the honour to invite~~ is directed to invite ~~invites~~ attention to the communication noted in the margin and to request that this reminder may be returned at once with information as to—

G. Lr No. 9198/14 dated 23-5-14.

1. the stage at which the matter now is, and
2. the date by which a reply may be expected, ~~and~~
3. ~~the circumstances which have caused the delay.~~

2. It is requested that the reply to this reminder may be sent not later than 10-7-14

Office P. W. Secretariat.
Station Chepauk.
Dated 24·6·14. 30.

Signature. [signature] 6/7/14

Designation Under Secretary to Govt. P.W.D. (I).

SUBJECT.

Shallowness of water in the Vedaranyam Canal

Referring to the S.E. for early remarks, letter from the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue) R. No. 543 Mis. of 12-5-14 regarding

To

The Chief Engineer for Irrigation

The matter has been referred to the Ex Engineer Nannilam Division whose reply is awaited. He has been reminded.

2. A reply will be sent before the 20- instant.

[signature]
Supdg Engineer VII Circle
Negapatam

Public Works Department.

Irrigation Branch.

REMINDER. REPLY.

To

The Supdg. Engineer
VII Circle.

From

Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

The undersigned ~~has the honour to invite~~ is directed to invite attention to the communication noted in the margin and to request that this reminder may be returned at once with information as to—

No. 4191 dated 23-5-14

1. the stage at which the matter now is and

2. the date by which a reply may be expected ~~and~~

~~3. the reasons which have caused the delay.~~

2. It is requested that the reply to this reminder may be sent not later than

Office P.W. Secretariat.
Station Chepauk.
Dated 24-6-14.

Signature

Designation Under Secretary
to Govt. P.W.D. (I)

SUBJECT.

Shortage of water in the Tekkanagam Canal

Referring to the S.E. for early remarks, letter from the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue) R. No. 542 of 12-5-14 regarding

Scott. II—10 (a)—7,000—4-13.

O. W DEPARTMENT.
(8)

21

Maintenance of the Vedaranyam canal, Tanjore Dt.

Canals & Channels.

Passing orders on a complaint made regarding the shallowness of water in the Vedaranyam Canal and directing that half the cost of maintaining the canal from 1908-09 be recovered from the Dt. Bd.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. ......, dated ...... 191 .

" " " " ......, " ...... 191 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No. pp 1-6 cf	From the Bd. of Rev. (S.R.)	Rdo. No. 543 Misc dated	12. 5. 1914.
p 7 cf	To the S.E. VII circle	No. 919 D/14-1 d	23. 5. 14
pp 9-11 cf	From — do —	No. 472 E-D d	9/10. 7. 14
" " p 12 cf	To — do —	" 919 D/14-2 " d	14. 8. 1914.
p 13 cf	From — do —	No. 645 E.D. d	7. 9. 14
pp 14-16 cf	From — do —	No. 660 E.D. d	11. 9. 14
" " p 17 cf	From the President, Dt. Bd. Tanjore	Rc No. 28927 " d	11. 10. 1914.
p 14 n.f.	From the A.G. Madras	No. 195 d / DB of '14	30. 10. 14

ORDER. No. 204 I, dated 26. 4. 1915.

Press

18P

pp 2-6 cf

pp 2-3 cf

The papers read above relate to a complaint made by certain merchants of Topputurai, Tanjore Dt., regarding the shallowness of water in the Vedaranyam canal, which resulted in delay in the transmission of goods by the canal and loss to the local traders. The Colls. of Customs, Madras, in forwarding a petition from the above merchants, remarked that no contribution for the maintenance of the canal had been recovered from "Local funds" and that the clearance of silt from the canal had not been carried out satisfactorily. A

Memo No. 919 D/14 d 23.5.14
p 7 c/a

S.E.'s letter No. 477 C d 8.7/14
pp 9-11 c/a

The Govt. notice with much dissatisfaction that the clearance of silt has not been satisfactory and it is clear there has been inadequate supervision by the Executive and Supg Engineers.

A report on the subject was called for from the S. E. VII circle. 19P

2. The S. E. in reply states that the canal is maintained to a depth of 3 ft. below M.S.L. As regard silt clearance, it is stated that in previous years, the work was far from satisfactory and that during the current year, the work has been done in a more satisfactory manner. The canal is being worked at a loss and it does not appear necessary that it should be improved at great cost. It will, it is considered, be sufficient, if the maintenance charges be, as directed in G.O. No. 320 D d 8.5.91, increased to Rs 10,000 (for works only) if a necessity arises.

Flag C

3. As regards the non-recovery from the Lt. Board of the moiety of the net cost of the maintenance of the canal, it is observed that in G.O. No. 371 Rev. d 26.3.85 orders were issued once for all directing that the net cost of the maintenance of the canal should be shared equally by the P.W.D. and the Lt. Board; and the general instructions issued in G.O. No. 631 W d 5.6.07 should be considered as having been subsequently modified by Standing order No. 24 to para 1805 of the P.W.D. Code Vol II and G.O. No. 525 W d 28.4.08. The A.G. will now be requested to see that

Flag R

Flag W

Flag Q

3/ 20 P

that the contribution is recovered regularly in future ~~[and that the arrears due from 1908-09 are recovered at an early date.]~~

As regards the arrears due from 1908-09, the Govt. are pleased to waive solely as an act of grace half the amount due from the District Board. The Acct. Genl. will arrange to recover the other half from the Dt. Board at an early date.

4. The question raised in para 2 of the A.G.'s ~~letter~~ notes read above will be considered in the P.W.D.

G.O. Dr.

L 14 n f.

PKS 25.11.14

[signature] 25/11/14

[signature] 26/11/14

Spare copies despd 27/5

To The ~~Chief Engr. for Irrign~~
" S.E. VII circle
" A.G. Madras
" Rev: Dept.
" L & M. "
" P.W.D. with notes
" Financial Dept.

in drs orderly

[signature] 24/11/14

DESPATCHED
Date 27/4
Enclos. –

Typed [initials] 27/4
Read with
Exd [initials] 27/4/15

a spare copy of notes to be sent to P.W.D.